

ZOOGOER



Small Mammal
House Reopens

Friends of the National ZOO



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Beginning on page 8 of this issue, zoo keeper Linda Moore invites you to visit the newly-renovated Small Mammal House. Moore also explains why fennec foxes have such big ears!

(Photo by Jessie Cohen, NZP Office of Graphics and Exhibits.)

Ted Reed: The Zoo's Best Friend

In the last quarter century, the National Zoo has been virtually remade into a world leader in animal care, exhibitry and research. Although he gives the credit to

others, Dr. Theodore H. Reed is ultimately responsible for this growth.

On April 1, he left the post of Zoo director after 25 years to become

senior advisor. He will maintain an office here, writing, lecturing, traveling and consulting around the world.

Appropriately, Reed's last public act as director was to cut the ribbon opening the renovated Small Mammal House and the new Monkey Island exhibit. Both are parts of the Zoo master plan which he developed shortly after he became director.

Health care came first

Reed began his long association with zoos in the late 1940s, assisting the Portland (Oregon) Zoo while in private veterinary practice there.

That led to his appointment as veterinarian for the National Zoo in 1955. By improving sanitation and health care procedures, he reduced animal disease and in particular infant mortality.

The sophisticated veterinary tools available now weren't around then. Sometimes Reed had to buy drugs at local pharmacies with his own money to get them quickly. He is particularly proud that the National Zoo pioneered the development of the chemical capture gun, which allows veterinarians to tranquilize large animals from safe distances.



Dr. Reed spends a few moments with a maned wolf cub at the National Zoo's Hand-Rearing Facility. After 25 years as Zoo director, he says, "I don't have to worry about the paperwork anymore, but I've always liked worrying about the animals."



"When I first came to the Zoo, our big gorilla, Nikumba, was just a baby. I held him in my arms." In this 1967 photo, Reed does the same for one of Nikumba's offspring, Inaki. Another of Nikumba's young, Tomoka, is the fourth gorilla born in captivity in the world.

The capture gun is standard equipment now, but it would have come in handy shortly after Reed came to the Zoo when he had to treat a seriously ill young tiger. "We were getting desperate to get some medication into him. Finally, I just walked into the cage, opened his mouth and put some pills down his throat. He was too sick to do anything to me, but it made a hell of an impression on the keepers."

The master plan

After he was named director in 1958, Reed began to develop a master plan for the Zoo. The newly-formed FONZ hired architects whose design was the impetus for a second plan which the Smithsonian approved in 1962.

Zoogoers are well aware of the exciting and attractive exhibits that have opened under this plan: Lion/Tiger Hill, Great Ape House, Panda

House, Great Flight Cage, Beaver Valley, North American Mammals Exhibit, new hoofed stock exhibits and the renovated Bird House and Reptile House.

Not as obvious but vital to animal care and conservation are the new Hospital/Research Building and the General Services Building, housing the graphics and physical plant services.

But Dr. Reed takes equal pride in other "firsts." "Building and renovating are a constant thing in zoos. It's something like our establishment of the first behavior research program at a zoo that will have a lasting effect."

The research effort organized by Reed has involved top scientists and talented students. "The information from our program is disseminated all over the world."

Window on wildlife

Another milestone in Reed's term as director was the acquisition of the 3100-acre property at Front Royal, Virginia, which became the Zoo's Conservation and Research Center. Reed had been looking for a location where the Zoo's exotic animals could be kept in groups with the right size and composition to encourage breeding. When the U.S. Department of Agriculture let the property go in 1974, the Zoo was given a temporary permit to occupy the land and the many buildings and utility shops (all in excellent condition). Reed says, "They were glad to have us up there so we could

take care of the buildings.

"Well, my father was an infantryman, and he always said the infantry is the only group that takes ground and holds it. So when we got that permit, we took Zoo people and animals—we started with the Pere David's deer—and we found the money to go up there and establish ourselves fast. We wanted to get the Smithsonian flag flying on the flagpole."

The invasion was successful, and it wasn't difficult for the Zoo to acquire the property permanently.

"It will make an enormous difference to the animals, because it represents an institutional commitment that is very important," Reed notes. "We have to be concerned with breeding and maintaining species so our grandchildren will have something to look at."

He is very clear about the role of zoos in today's world. "I've had many people tell me they've seen elephants and lions in the wild, and they don't want to see them in cages in a zoo."

"I say, that's fine. You're lucky you saw them in the wild. We have another two million or so people just around Washington who are lucky if they get to the Shenandoah National Park or Ocean City. The only window on wildlife they have is the Zoo."

A friend of the Friends

Friends of the National Zoo owes Dr. Reed its very beginnings. After he became Zoo director, Reed began



Thomas J. Abercrombie © National Geographic Society

To bring the white tigress, Mohini, back from India in 1961, Reed had to do everything from turning dollars into rupees to riding 500 miles in a straw-filled truck alongside Mohini in her crate. Above, he takes his turn at tiger-sitting during the flight home.

Mohini's offspring, Rewati, was one of many animals raised by Reed's first wife, Elizabeth (right). Reed comments, "It's nice having a dining room table with tiger teethmarks in it." Until her death in 1978, Mrs. Reed was an integral part of the Zoo family.



Donna K. Grosvenor © National Geographic Society

addressing civic and church groups around Washington. The Cleveland Park Citizens Association asked him to speak, and he planned a talk on the animal collection and the enjoyment available at the Zoo.

But the association rejected the idea of a "P.R." talk and urged Reed to speak frankly about the problems at the Zoo and what might be done to help. Reed told them that while the animal collection was very good, the physical plant of the park needed a great deal of work.

The association immediately formed Friends of the National Zoo, a group of individuals with Wash-

ington experience that would prove very useful. They worked hard in support of the Smithsonian's effort to get the necessary funding allocated by Congress.

Reed has encouraged the growth of FONZ through the years and, in return, has gained the respect and support of the many dedicated people within FONZ. One of the earliest FONZ efforts was educating the zoogoing public with a corps of volunteer guides (now grown to more than 400 trained people).

Reed recalls, "Some of my European colleagues said, 'How can you have these ladies running around

giving information about the animals? They're not professionals.'

"Well, these volunteers are doing a fantastic job. They know their animals. They've done the homework. And in the behavior watches, they're a fantastic extension of the scientist.

"Now, my European colleagues are jealous that we have all this."

Reed also encouraged FONZ to acquire the gift, parking and food concessions for the Zoo as each became available under government regulations for contractors. The Zoo research and education programs benefit from the profits—but Reed knew also that FONZ would provide these services in a fashion appropriate to the Zoo.

More paperwork, less animals

Reed has a particular affection for the animals he's brought back to the Zoo himself. The first was the white tigress, Mohini, purchased in India in 1961.

And, of course, Reed traveled to China in 1977 to get Ling-Ling and Hsing-Hsing, the giant pandas given to the United States as part of the new period of diplomatic relations.

That trip required as much international diplomacy as animal expertise on Reed's part because "at that time, there had not been too many official Yankees coming. We were all quite cautious about each other. In fact, I felt as though I were being carried around on a silk pillow."



When the Front Royal property became available to the Zoo, Dr. Reed had already been looking for a place to establish a major exotic animal breeding facility. In 1975, Reed escorted Minnesota Governor Wendell Anderson around a herd of eight camels, acquired jointly with the Minnesota Zoological Garden.



White House Photo Office

Reed hosted Mrs. Jimmy Carter and daughter Amy, when Amy accepted a baby elephant as a Bicentennial gift from the government of Sri Lanka. Mrs. Richard Nixon was an honored guest when Reed brought the giant pandas back from China.

He's hosted countless American and foreign dignitaries and is much sought after as a participant in national and international zoo conferences. Students that he has helped and guided hold important posts in zoos around the country.

But at the heart of this internationally renowned and respected zoo official is still a young veterinarian.

"I came here to work with animals, to be an animal doctor. When I came, I even had a couple of special cages built so I could do some animal studies myself, and I never got to it.

"I found that the more you build up an organization, the more administrative work there is to do. More forms, less animals."

That's why Ted Reed, after a quarter century of achievement, is taking a well-deserved opportunity to concentrate on some of his own special projects.

But he'll continue to be active in Zoo affairs in his role as senior advisor. When he announced his decision at a meeting of Zoo and FONZ staff, he concluded simply, "This is the finest zoo in the world."

"Ted Reed: The Zoo's Best Friend" was written by Zoogoer editor Susan Stauffer.



Jessie Cohen, NZP Office of Graphics and Exhibits

Acting Director Named

Dr. Christen Wemmer, curator-in-charge of the Zoo's Conservation and Research Center since 1975, is serving as acting Zoo director. Wemmer received his doctorate in zoology from the University of Maryland in 1972 and joined the Zoo staff in 1974. He previously served as curator of small mammals and carnivores at Chicago's Brookfield Zoo.

Wemmer says living in the city is quite a change from the quiet Virginia countryside, but he's enjoying working with all the Zoo departments.

The Smithsonian Institution is forming a search committee to find a permanent director.

Small Mammal House Reopens— And a Keeper Invites You to Visit

After 30 months of redesign and renovation, the Zoo's Small Mammal House has reopened: Some 45 species from acouchi to zorilla are on dramatic view in attractive, glass-fronted enclosures.

Like many early zoo buildings, the 1937 Small Mammal House was designed to hold as many species as possible, unfortunately sacrificing spaciousness and natural settings. More animals were added over the years, dividing the space even further.

When the gorillas and orangutans were moved from the Small Mammal House to the new Great Ape House in

1981, more room became available, and the long-planned renovation got under way.

The small mammals were housed in temporary quarters at the Zoo and at the Conservation and Research Center in Front Royal, Virginia. Contractors were brought in for the new flooring and utility systems, a new roof with skylights, a keeper work area, an improved visitor area and enlarged animal enclosures.

But the job of preparing the building for the animals was done entirely by National Zoo staff, with every department participating.

Under the supervision of collection manager Bill Xanten, keepers, craft workers and graphics specialists transformed the enclosures into South American jungles, African deserts and North American woodlands.

The result is active animals and delighted viewers in attractive and comfortable surroundings.

In the following article, small-mammal keeper Linda Moore provides a personal perspective on the new facility.



Jessie Cohen, NZP Office of Graphics and Exhibits

by Linda Moore

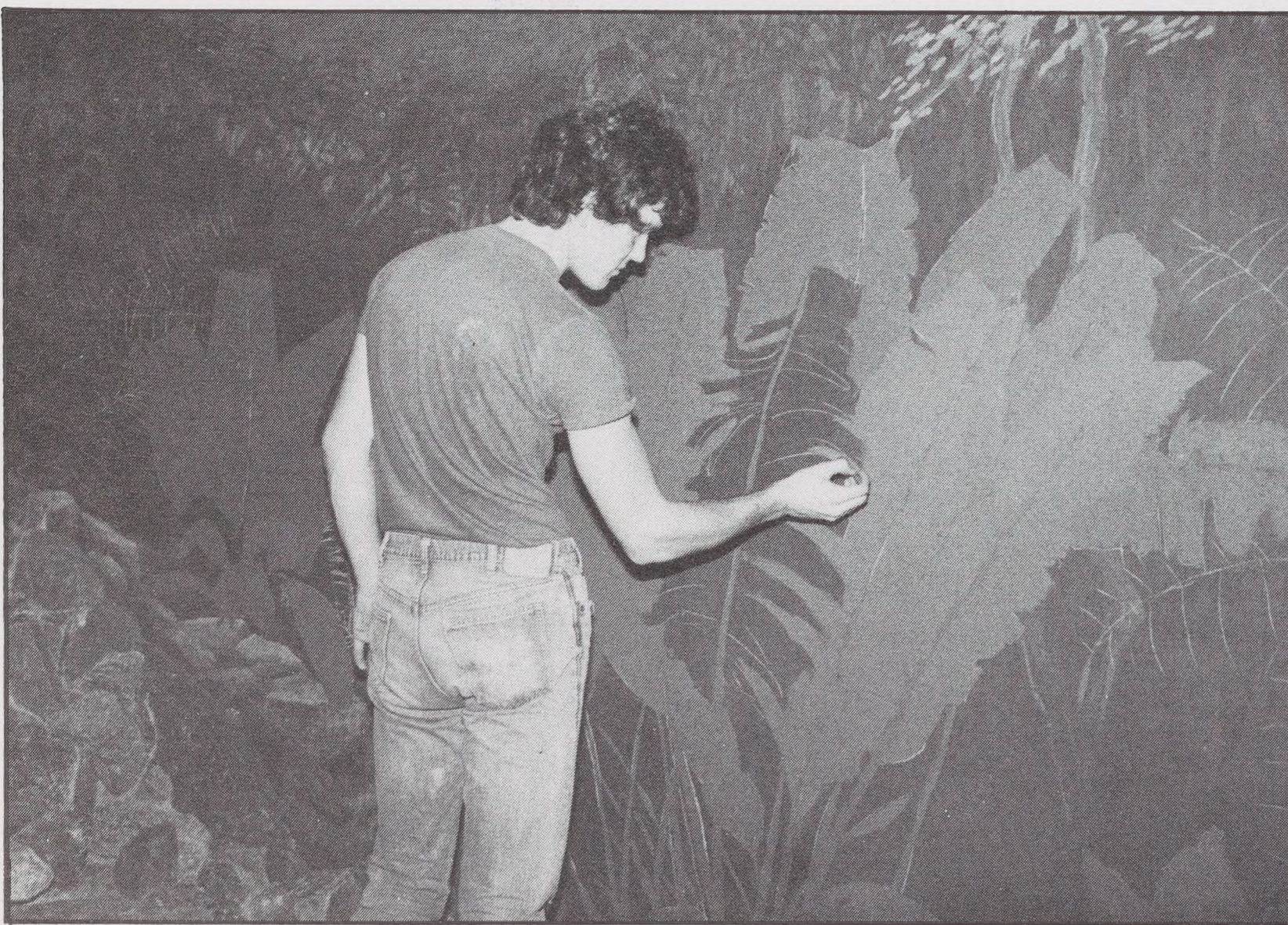
Working at the National Zoo was my dream as a kid. Most people grow up and forget their dreams or find them unattainable. I grew up and still wanted to work at the Zoo!

Thanks to the excellent FONZ volunteer programs, I discovered that I could at least make myself useful while I was hanging around the place. I was on a volunteer assignment in Beaver Valley when a keeper position opened up at the Small Mammal House. It isn't often that a volunteer can join the keeper



Jessie Cohen, NZP Office of Graphics and Exhibits

Author Linda Moore helps a binturong get settled in its new home in the renovated Small Mammal House. At four to six feet long, binturongs are the largest animals in the small mammal collection.



The ring-tailed mongoose lives in the tropical forests of Madagascar, recreated in this new exhibit. Below, a graphics specialist puts the finishing touches on the mural. All the exhibits in the newly-renovated Small Mammal House were researched, designed and built by Zoo staff, in an interdepartment effort that is a source of great pride to the participants.

staff, but this job was offered to me.

I admit that at the time I thought Small Mammals was hardly a glorious unit to be in. At least I knew *something* about binturongs, meerkats and zorillas, but I was hardly an expert. However, having learned a long time ago that one shouldn't be picky, I accepted the position. Several years later, I find that I'm still learning about these amazing little animals.

One of the first things I discovered is that most people have no idea what a small mammal *is*.

Elephants, tigers and bears are self-explanatory. But when I tell people that I work with small mammals, I get blank stares.

When I explain further by using species names like zorilla and fennec, the stares get even blanker. By then, the hair on the back of my neck begins to stand up as I blurt out, "You know, rats and bats and squirrels!" "Oh, my," they say as they turn away. I have once again failed to communicate the fascination and love I have for this group of animals.

Granted, small mammals are hardly considered ferocious or dangerous (although I've found out the hard way that size has nothing to do with biting ability!). But what they lack in glamor, they make up for in appearance and adaptations.

A more varied group of mammals can't be found in any other area of the Zoo. From coloration and tooth structure to eye placement and



Jessie Cohen, NZP Office of Graphics and Exhibits

The Egyptian spiny mice often form "huddles." In the wild, this helps them keep warm.

countless other differences, small mammal characteristics vary in all parts of the world. And just as you have to look closely to see them in the wild, you need to look closely to appreciate them in the Small Mammal House.

Spend time walking through the exhibit area and carefully examine the inhabitants. Play a guessing game: Note what adaptations the animals in each exhibit have and try to figure out how these enable that particular species to survive in its habitat.

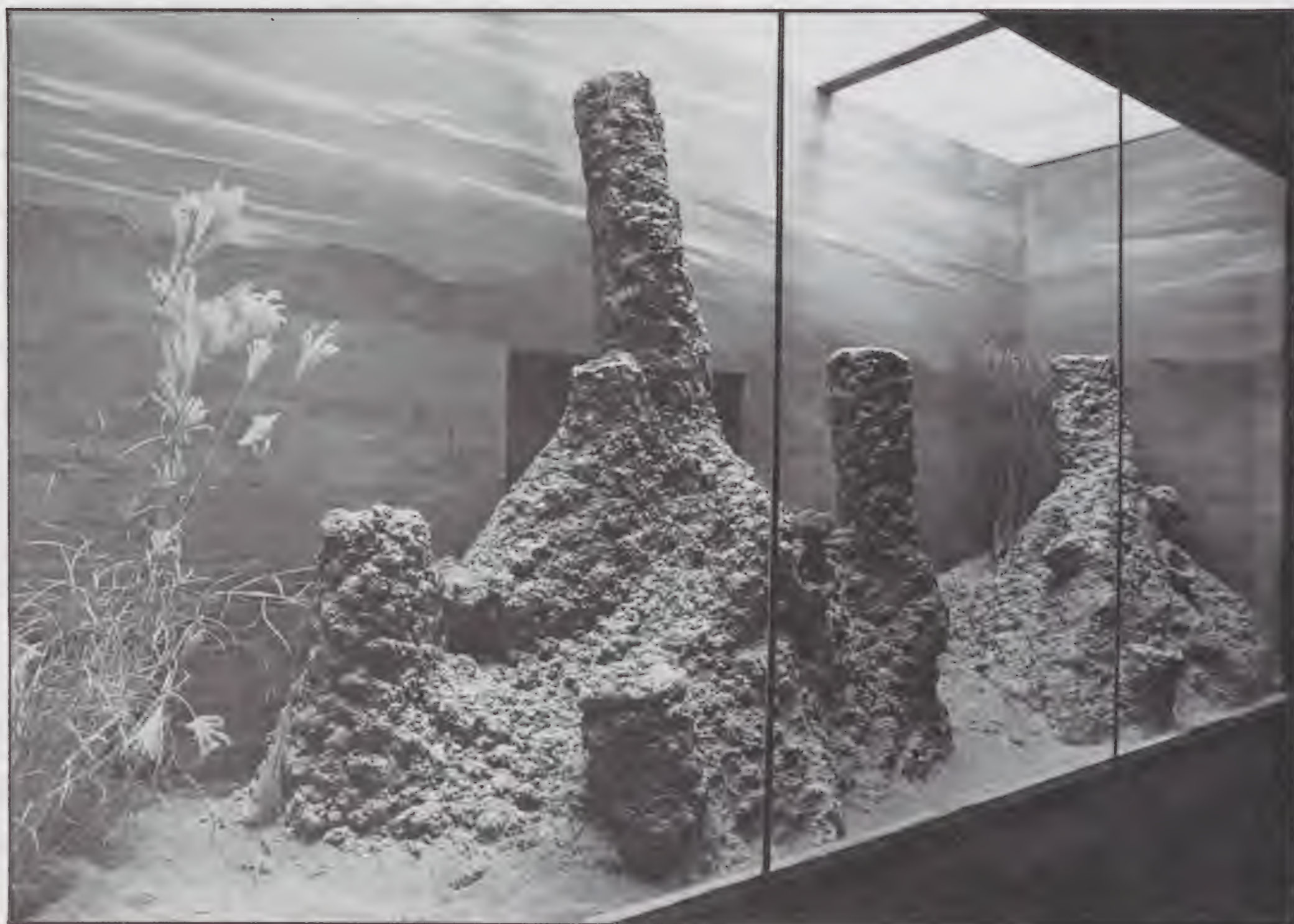
For example, most zoogoers walk up to the Egyptian spiny mouse

exhibit, look at the mice briefly and turn away. But on close examination, a number of things become apparent. Note the position of the animal's eyes on the sides of its head. This gives a wide periphery of vision, which is quite useful in spotting predators trying to stalk the mouse from behind.

Predators, on the other hand, usually have eyes centered to the front, enabling them to judge distances for well-timed leaps. But let's suppose this particular mouse is not as quick as most, and the predator catches it by the tail. Judging by the number of different tail lengths on



The dwarf mongoose looks right at home in the artificial termite mounds, copied after the African originals. Each exhibit in the Small Mammal House is so different that visitors liken it to walking through an art gallery, except that it is dramatically alive!



the exhibit animals, it can be reasoned that the tail can be damaged with little harm to the mouse. In fact, a tail that is easily shed, though never regenerated, is another protective adaptation of this species.

Finally, all mammals have hair. But observe that these mice have modified hairs in the form of spines. The stiff, bristly spines that cover their back are a form of protection. A predator feeling unpleasant pricks in its mouth may decide to drop the mouse instead of eating it.

Perhaps "cute and cuddly" is more what you enjoy. Who can resist the charms of the fennec fox with those big, wonderful ears? This species' habitat is the blistering Sahara Desert, and many adaptations allow it to survive that harsh environment.

Those huge ears indicate that fennecs are nocturnal creatures which sleep through the heat of the day. Their keen hearing allows them to hunt at night when visibility is nil but the air is much cooler. Their sandy color provides natural camouflage. And one glimpse of their dry, pellet-sized feces shows how their bodies work to conserve the water necessary for their survival.

If rarity is more to your liking, we can accommodate you. You won't see the likes of, say, the ring-tailed mongoose at many other zoos, if any. In fact, there probably isn't a finer collection of small mammals



Jessie Cohen, NZP Office of Graphics and Exhibits

Giant squirrels and Oriental small-clawed otters roam this replica of the rain forests and coastal areas of Southeast Asia.

at any zoo in this country. Many zoos have only a small collection because they are not popular compared to other animals.

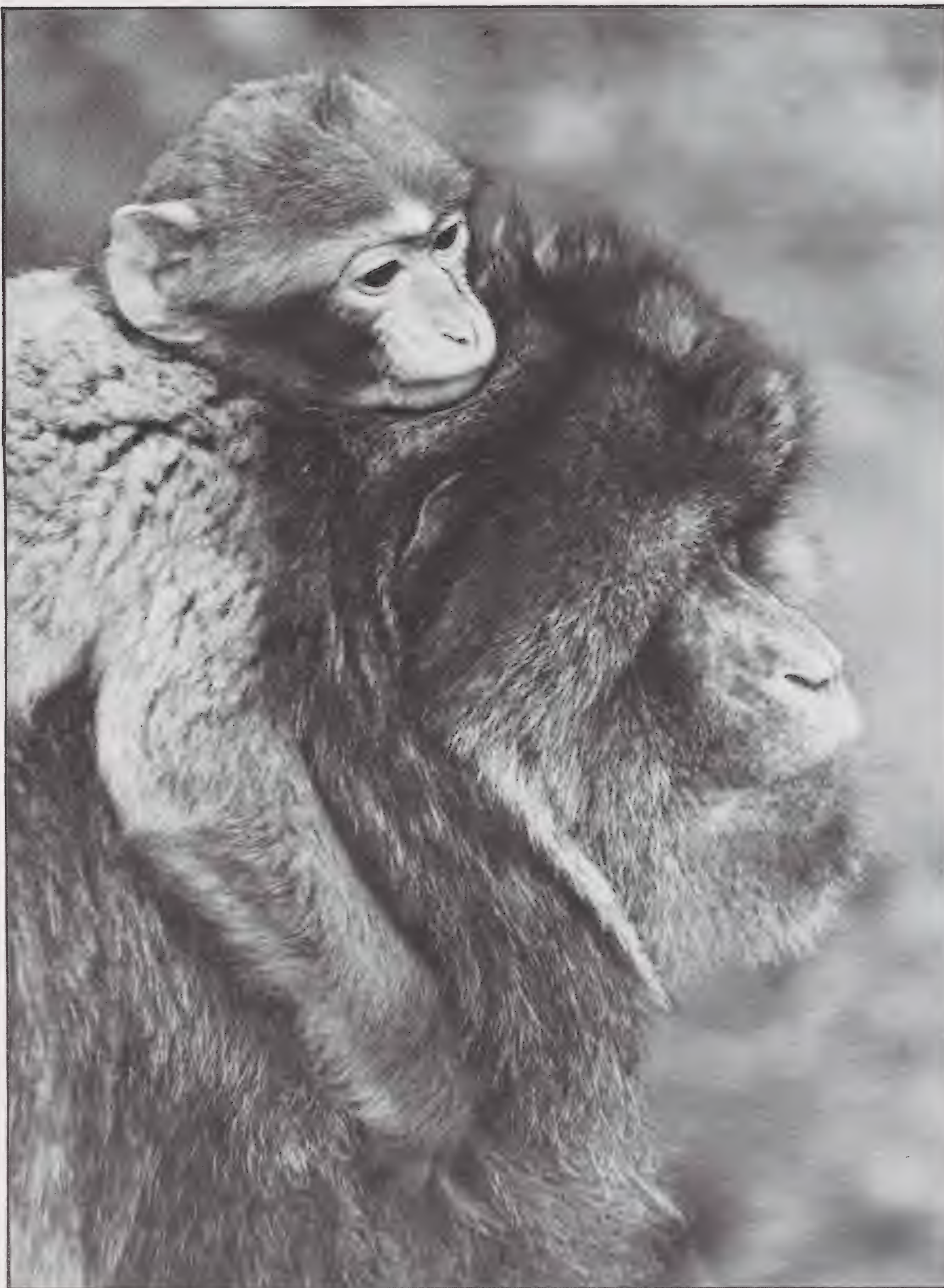
Plus, this group of animals can be very hard to keep, and they tend to have short life spans (especially compared to the elephant!).

Fortunately, the National Zoo staff has brought a lot of practice and patience to bear. The result is a relatively low mortality rate among the animals. Quite a number of residents of the old Small Mammal House are still around to call the new one home. . .even some of the spiny mice!

So forget the elephants, forget even the pandas for a day. Come see the new Small Mammal House.

Take time to examine the animals. Make suppositions about their lifestyles, and try to justify them by noting the animals' physical characteristics and adaptations. By spending some time with this fascinating animal group, you will be amazed at the diversity.

And if you have any questions, be sure to ask me—I'm always eager to show how proud I am that I work with small mammals!



Although they are not true apes, Barbary macaques are called apes because they have no tails. They are native to North Africa and Gibraltar. This is the dominant male and one of his youngsters.

Monkey Island Comes Alive

He wasn't quite sure about it at first. His family waited inside while he checked.

Then the dominant male of the National Zoo's Barbary ape troop walked cautiously around Monkey Island, studying the hundreds of eager visitors. When he completed his inspection, he went back to the entrance of the animal holding area to get his family. One by one, they followed him out. Monkey Island was open!

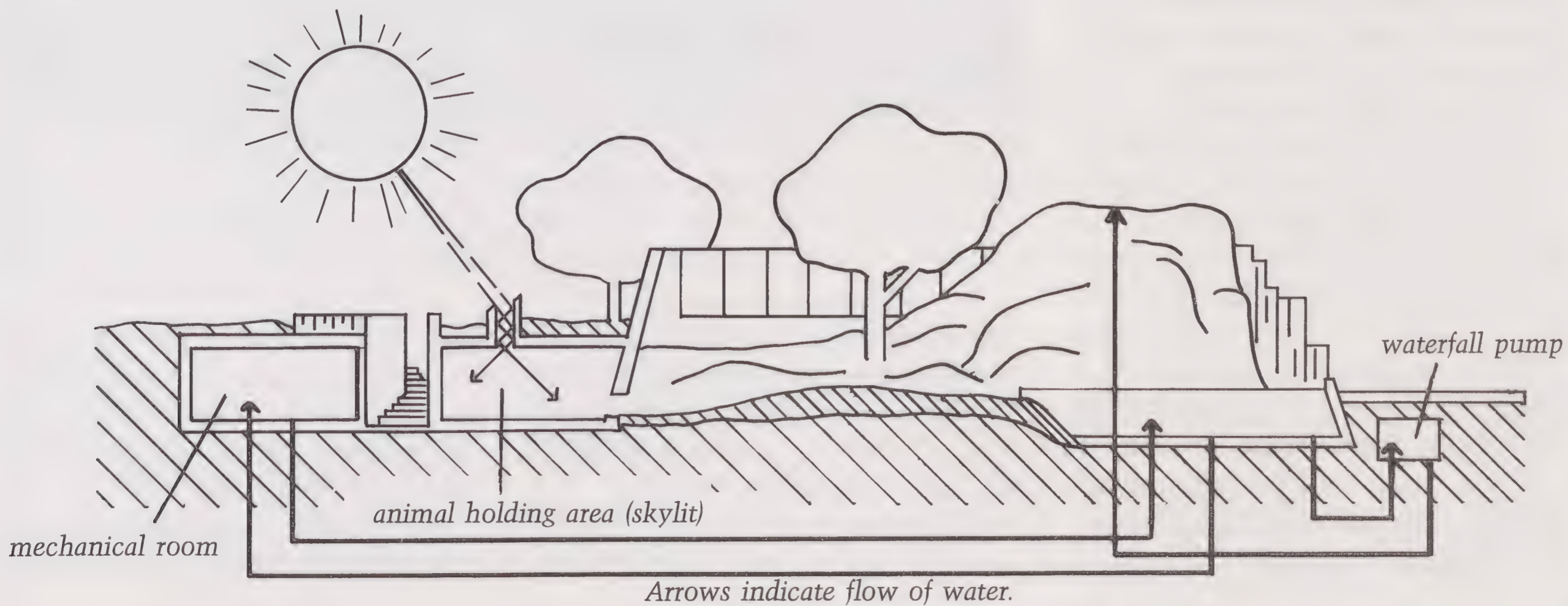
Another step in the Zoo's master building plan, Monkey Island is a 25-foot bluff of natural stone bordered on three sides by water. It features a waterfall, pine trees and aquatic plants. (The landscaping will evolve as the Zoo staff discovers which kinds of plants the apes like to eat—and which they tear apart!)

Monkey Island is now home to eight macaques, from which the Zoo hopes will come a colony of 20. The exhibit will be a source of delight to Zoo visitors and a valuable research site for zoologists.



Jessie Cohen, NZP Office of Graphics and Exhibits

An underground pumping and filter system recirculates water through Monkey Island's waterfall and moat. Also underground is the skylit holding area, where the animals will spend the colder nights and some of their days (for medical checks and other special reasons).



NZP Office of Graphics and Exhibits

ZOO NEWS

Orangutan Born

At 6:10 a.m. on February 23, keeper Walter Tucker was making his usual early morning inspection at the Great Ape House. As he passed the drowsing gorillas, nothing looked different from any other Wednesday morning. But something gleaned from Tucker's 28 years of close contact with Zoo animals gave him the feeling that things *were* different. When he came to the orangutan enclosures, he saw what it was.

Pensi, the 15-year old female orangutan, slipped down from her sleeping bench and came over to Tucker, holding a ball of dark hair. She had just given birth to a healthy five-pound male orangutan!

The youngster was carefully observed by Zoo staff until it was time for a complete exam by the veterinarian. Dr. Mitchell Bush lightly sedated Pensi and removed the infant, although Pensi didn't want to release it. Both mother and young were given iron and antibiotic injections, and the umbilical cord was cut and tied.

When Pensi became sufficiently alert to have the baby returned to her, "Tucker" (named for his



Many of Pensi's actions toward her baby (putting him on her head, pulling his arms and legs, hanging him on a tree branch) are disquieting from our standpoint, but they are all documented parts of maternal orangutan behavior.

discoverer) was wrapped in a towel and placed in an adjacent enclosure. The door separating them was opened, and Pensi made a beeline for him, unwrapping him and cradling him in her arms.

A birth date of mid-March had

been projected after Pensi's urine tests were positive for pregnancy last August. But as her pregnancy advanced, it became evident that she would deliver sooner.

Pensi and her mate Atjeh had produced three prior offspring. The

first was born in 1976 but died shortly after. A male, Azy, was born in December 1977 and received much attention, as he was the first second-generation captive-born orangutan in the United States.

Zoos can perpetuate this species only through multiple generation births because orangutans are no longer taken from the wild (there are only about 4,000 on Borneo and Sumatra). Also, the original founding stock of wild-caught animals is becoming too old to breed.

Azy developed an infection and had to be taken from Pensi for special care. He was then sent to the Rio Grande Zoo to be raised with a female, Bonnie, whose mother had died. Azy and Bonnie came to the National Zoo in 1981 and rapidly became a happy family with Pensi and Atjeh.

Pensi's third-born (Indah, a female) came along in August 1980 and now lives at the San Diego Zoo.

Pensi will be allowed to raise her baby (unless medical complications arise) because she has been a good mother in the past. This will also be an excellent opportunity for Azy and Bonnie to view parental behavior. There is evidence the young Tucker himself will grow into a better parent by staying with his mother.

Pensi showed uncharacteristic aggression toward Azy and Bonnie during her pregnancy, but she has returned to her old jovial self, displaying exceptional tolerance by

allowing the other orangutans and the keepers to touch her baby. She has even taken great pride in showing her baby to Femelle, a female gorilla in the next enclosure.

Femelle has looked on with great interest through the acrylic panel separating them. We can only hope that this is a harbinger of future births in the Great Ape House.

— *Douglas W. Donald*
Keeper, Great Ape House

Organic Gardeners and Farmers...

The National Zoo needs pesticide-free stalks of corn and/or sunflowers. The corn should be ripe and unhusked. The sunflowers should have heads with seeds in cases. (Full stalks that have not been treated with pesticides are not available through regular suppliers.)

These food items are very popular with the apes and monkeys. Because the stalks can be manipulated, they give the animals a sort of "occupational therapy" as well as something good to eat.

The Zoo is also looking for donated old portable television sets. An occasional hour of television adds variety to the day for the gorillas and orangutans.

If you can help, call 673-4783 or 673-4875 and leave a message for Lisa Stevens.

Update on Wild Deer at Front Royal (Provided by the Smithsonian Institution)

In 1982, the National Zoo proposed that a regulated and controlled public deer hunt be employed to thin out the overabundant white-tailed deer population at the Zoo's Conservation and Research Center in Front Royal, Virginia. Even though such a regulated public hunt has proven to be an efficient and effective deer management solution elsewhere, many considered it an inappropriate solution for the National Zoological Park of the Smithsonian Institution. For many, hunting, even as a conservation strategy, evoked an image contrary to the Smithsonian's dedication to the conservation of wildlife.

Several alternative solutions have been examined, the most promising of which involves: 1) the construction of a second fence around current and projected high use areas of the Center and 2) the removal of portions of the perimeter fence which now surrounds the 3,000 acre property. This alternative also has the advantage of relatively low cost.

The second fence will be eight feet high, serving as a second line of restraint to any of the Center's exotic animals which might escape from their primary enclosures and, at the same time, creating a barrier

to the spreading of disease to exotic animals by the native white-tailed deer.

The perimeter fence around the 3,000 acres of the Center is six feet high in the least utilized wilderness areas of the property and eight feet high in other areas. The plan calls for removing 100-foot sections of the fence where it is only six feet high. The fencing in these areas would be replaced by a wire strand fence no more than four feet high.

Since the new fence can be easily jumped by deer, the dense population on the Center would be more free to disperse. Given the greater availability of food outside the property, dispersal is likely. Occasional deer drives in areas where deer have entered valuable crop land or come close to exotic animal enclosures will move additional white-tailed deer into areas from which they can disperse into surrounding forests. The perimeter fence will be dropped only in the more remote areas of the property, not along roads or near farms or residential areas.



Jessie Cohen, NZP Office of Graphics and Exhibits

A new breeding season—Although the National Zoo's giant pandas mated naturally for the first time this season, Ling-Ling was artificially inseminated twice as a back-up measure. Zoo veterinary, research and keeper staff were assisted by professionals from other institutions, including two London Zoo scientists who hand-carried semen from their panda, Chia-Chia.

Ling-Ling and Hsing-Hsing were put together for several mornings each week as her heat period approached, just as they were last season. When the time came this year, though, Hsing was more assertive toward Ling, and she held the breeding posture more than in previous years.

Ling-Ling's urine will be checked frequently for changes in hormone levels which indicate pregnancy. A birth could occur between mid-July and September.

FONZ NEWS

Photo Contest Judged

Judging of the Sixth Annual FONZ Photo Contest has been completed, with more than 100 photographs entered.

Winners in the color-photography category for adults were: Patricia Blue, first; Jeanne McKee, second; Joe Hartary, third.

First prize in the black-and-white category for adults was awarded to

Robert Eugene Miller. Edgar Chamberlin received second prize.

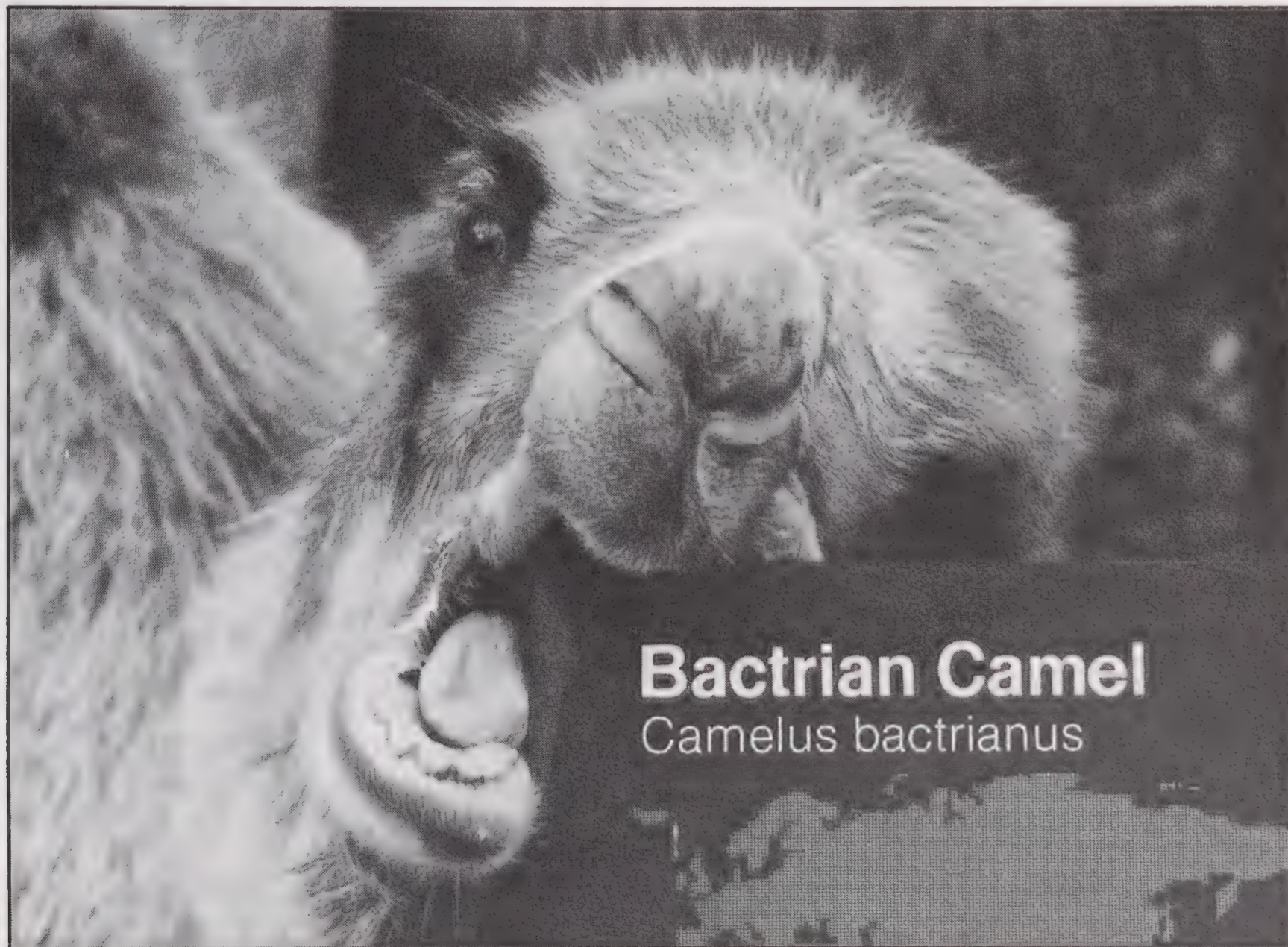
In the Junior category, the three winners were: David Klubes, first; Pat Miller, second; Robert Sappington, third.

The prizes included gift certificates for photographic equipment from Penn Camera and book selections from the Time/Life series on photography.

Those who received honorable

mentions were Steve Bonner, Leo Boberschmidt, James P. Chadwick, Victor Hicks, Cindy Michaux, Roberto Morassi, Bill Shields and Karen Wachtmeister.

Be sure to watch for announcements of the Seventh Annual FONZ Photo Contest in upcoming issues of the FONZ Wildlife Adventures brochure.



Bactrian Camel
Camelus bactrianus

Robert Eugene Miller was in the right spot at the right time to snap this photo of the Bactrian camel, taking first place in the black-and-white category for adults of the FONZ Photography Contest.

"But I've Already Joined..."

Some members have asked why they continue to receive mailings inviting them to join FONZ.

To reach as many prospective members as possible, FONZ uses outside mailing lists. List exchange is common among membership organizations because it is the most economical way to increase support.

FONZ cross-checks the lists used against each other and the current membership list to remove duplicates (it's called "merge-purge").

But the names must match exactly for duplicates to be discovered, and people often use slightly different versions of their names when they order products or subscribe to publications. To the computer's "eye," Jane Doe, Mrs. Jane Doe and Mrs. Jane S. Doe are three different people, even if the addresses are the same! That's why FONZ members may receive more than one membership invitation.

FONZ makes its list of members' names available to other organizations whose services we believe will be of interest. Many members find that mail promotions are valuable time-savers, whether they shop by mail, sign up for special events or subscribe to new publications.

However, if you prefer that we not exchange your name, just send us the mailing label from the back page of *ZooGoer* with a request that your name be removed from our exchange list. (If you continue to

receive unwanted solicitations, your name must be on mailing lists other than FONZ's.)

Sweepstakes Winners Announced

Mrs. Nancy L. Melhorn of Washington, D.C., is headed for a two-week deluxe adventure in the Galapagos Islands as the grand-prize winner of FONZ's 1982 Sweepstakes.

The second-prize winners, Eliza-

beth Lequey of Arlington, Michael and Barbara Harris of Alexandria, Alice Gehl of Alexandria and William Weitzen of Bethesda, have won a special tour of the National Zoo's Conservation and Research Center. Joe Selmon of Washington, D.C., will receive the third-place prize of a Canon Sure Shot Autofocus Camera.

Close to 300 other fabulous prizes were awarded in the sweepstakes drawing. For a complete list of winners, send a stamped, self-addressed envelope to: FONZ Winners List, Friends of the

See the World With FONZ!

FONZ travel opportunities get better and better! Here are the wild-life safaris planned for this year and next—call today (673-4950) to add your name to our mailing list for complete information when available:

1983

Scandinavia-Russia Cruise

July 19-August 1

Kenya

August 12-31

Kenya

August 19-September 7

China-Tibet

August 29-September 20 (Only a few spaces still available, so call today!)

Antarctic Cruise

November 24-December 17

1984

India-Nepal

January 21-February 10

South Pacific, Australia,
New Zealand

February-March*

Galapagos

April*

Iceland-Greenland

July*

China-Tibet

September-October*

Kenya

September-October*

*Exact dates to be announced.

National Zoo, c/o National Zoo, Washington, DC 20008.

To increase member support, FONZ is currently advertising another sweepstakes drawing to be held in early 1984. The grand prize trip is again a safari to the popular Galapagos. Watch for your entry in the mail!

Help a Future Jane Goodall

Each summer FONZ brings college students to the National Zoo as interns. The students assist Zoo scientists in animal research projects as they learn about the Zoo and develop skills that will be useful to them later in their careers.

Although FONZ provides stipends, the summer interns still need low-cost room and board. Many are new to the Washington area and must live on limited budgets.

If you have a room in your house that will be empty this summer or if you need a housesitter, why not help a future Marlin Perkins or Jane Goodall stay within his or her means while learning about wild animals.

The FONZ summer interns will need housing near the Zoo or near public transportation for twelve weeks from late May to early September.

These interns are a very select group of highly intelligent, dedi-

cated individuals. They are some of the best and brightest of future zoo professionals. Won't you help?

For additional information, please call Mary Sawyer Hollander at 673-4955.

Volunteers Needed for Animal Care

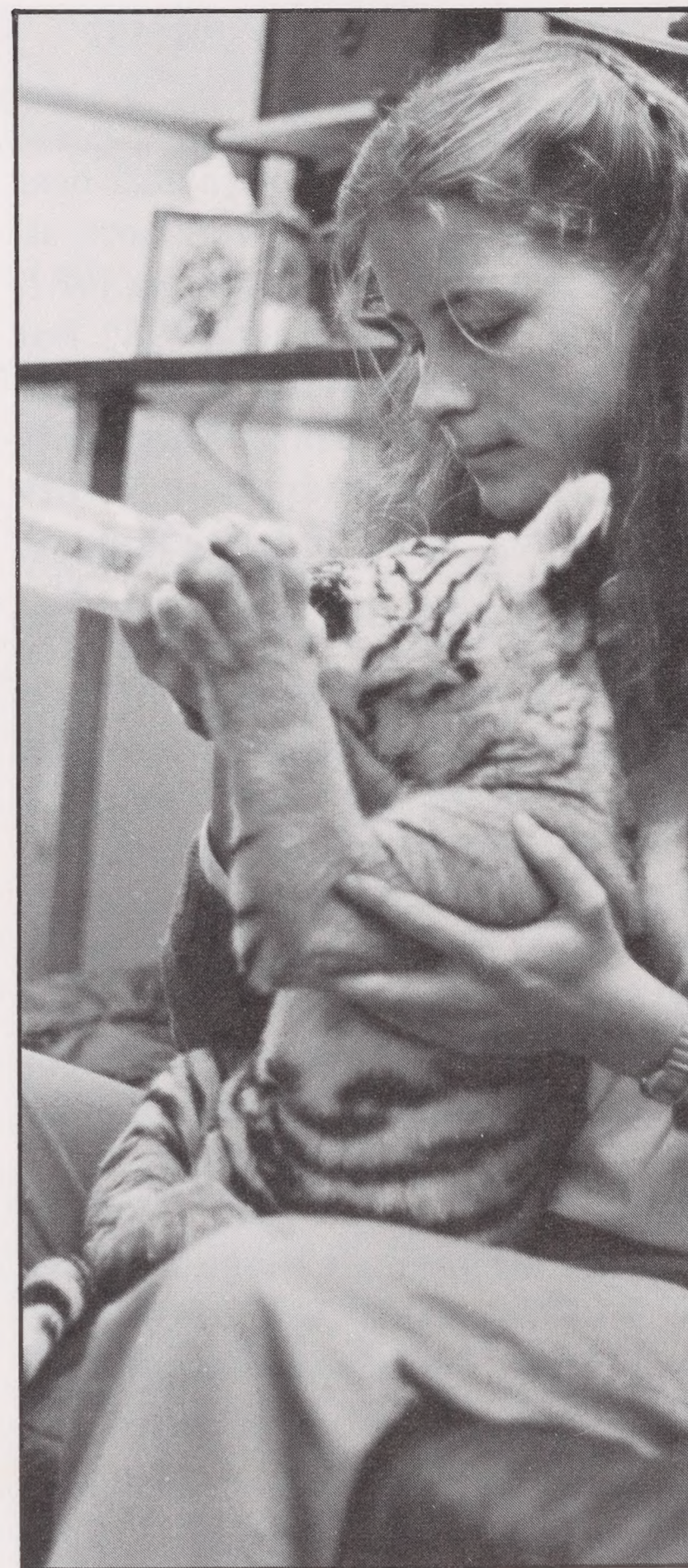
Volunteers are needed for the National Zoo's Hand-Rearing Facility, caring for young animals that would not survive without human intervention.

The work is very rewarding but it is equally demanding. The tasks include feeding, cleaning, weighing, making formula and keeping detailed records on the animals' progress.

To qualify, you must have a sincere interest in the details of animal care, a willingness to work with any species of animal, the concentration to do delicate tasks for long periods and the ability to get along with little sleep.

You must be prepared to work three sessions (of about 10 hours each) per week for four weeks, then four weeks off, year-round. You must also attend regular meetings and do independent reading.

If you meet these requirements and are 18 years or older, call FONZ volunteer coordinator Jo Anne Grumm at 673-4956 for more details about the program.



Martha Tabor, Working Images Photographs

Volunteers at the Zoo's Hand-Rearing Facility sometimes get to feed baby tigers—but they also have to clean up after them.

FONZ Volunteers Assist With Bear Study

As many zoogoers know, a sloth bear and a spectacled bear were born at the National Zoo in December 1981, and put on exhibit in early 1982. But a great deal more went on behind the scenes (and sometimes in front of the exhibits) to study these births and gain a better understanding of the species.

Keeper Morna Holden kept a log of key events and dates, from the time the parent animals bred until the cubs were more than a year old, to learn about gestation periods and other factors. Dr. Edwin Gould, the Zoo's curator of mammals, studied the cubs' vocalizations before they emerged from their dens, assisted by Holden and keeper leader Bill Rose.

This was just the tip of the iceberg, though. From March 1982, when the cubs did emerge, until the end of January 1983, six FONZ volunteers systematically collected data on the activities of mothers and cubs. Using a specially-designed data sheet, FONZ volunteers recorded what the mother and cub were doing and how far apart they were at one-minute intervals.

The observations usually lasted one hour, and they were made once every four days, for a total "watch time" of 150 hours.

You might wonder, "Why would they spend so much time watching pairs of bears?" or "What exactly did they find out, anyway?" The answer

to the first question is easy. Any information gleaned makes us better prepared for subsequent breeding and births here at the Zoo.

Also, very little is known about these two species, either in captivity or in the wild. The continued destruction of their habitats (sloth bears are forest dwellers from Asia, spectacled bears from South America) increases the potential for their extinction. The more informed we are about them, the better chance we have to prevent their disappearance from the wild—or at least to maintain a healthy captive population.

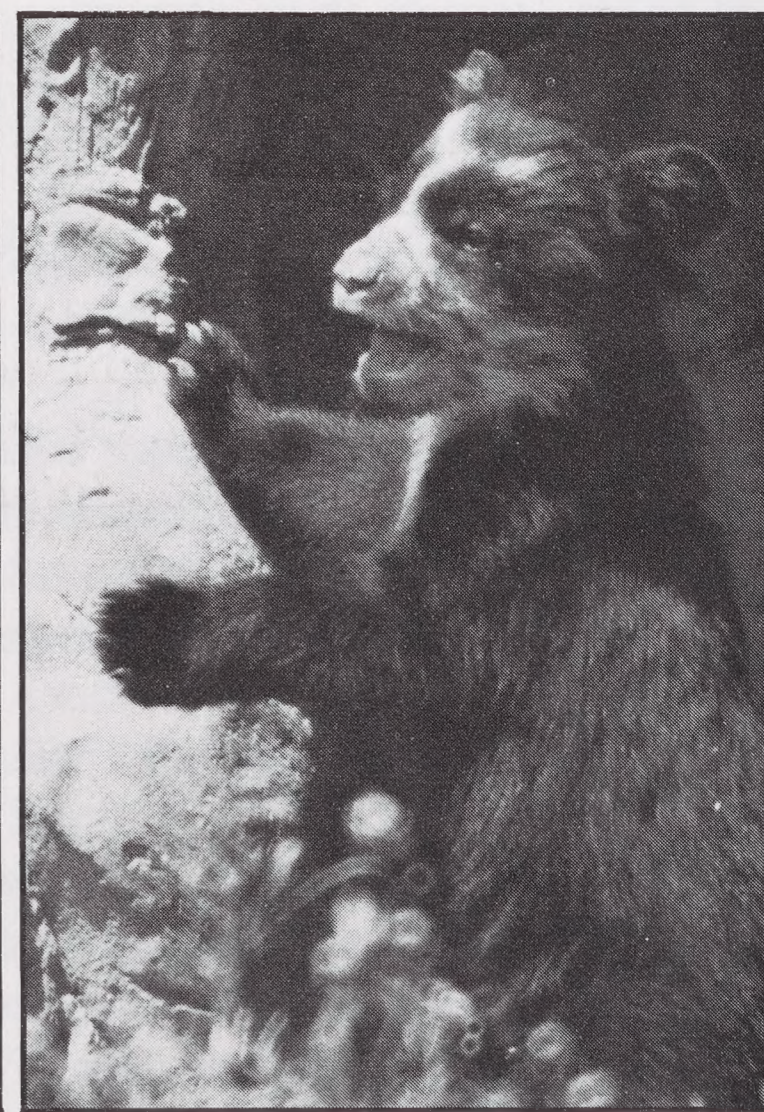
The answer to the second question is not as apparent now, because

collecting data is just the beginning and there is much analysis to be done. We do know that the sloth bear stayed closer to its mother and had more contact with her than the spectacled bear had with its mother, although the sloth cub did decrease the contact over time. As more analysis is completed, we will look for the reasons for this difference in behavior.

Once again, the combined efforts of the Zoo staff and FONZ volunteers should result in a substantial contribution to our knowledge of animal biology.

—Dr. Daryl Boness

Associate Curator of Mammals



The sloth bear (left) and spectacled bear cubs were the subjects of a study involving FONZ volunteer "watchers."

WHAT'S NEW AT THE ZOO?

Zoo and Aquarium Month

When President Ronald Reagan declared June to be Zoo and Aquarium Month, he said, "Animals are a universal language, and they have appeal to people everywhere. By enabling us to experience animals firsthand and to learn about their habitats, zoos and aquariums have become a valuable and unique asset."

Celebrate this month by coming to the Zoo for these special events:

Summerfest, June 5-11 11 a.m.-3 p.m.

For a detailed program of Summerfest events, call 673-4821. Or pick one up at any of the Zoo's Information Booths.

Sunday, June 5

All about elephants, all day long; dancing, mime, storytelling and films.

Monday, June 6

Lecture: Gardening for the Animals; Family workshop: Be an Artist; elephant training demonstrations; Meet a Snake; films.

Tuesday, June 7

Lecture: Teaching Animals at the Zoo; Family workshop: Zoo Careers; elephant training demonstrations; Meet the Seals and Sea Lions; films.

Wednesday, June 8

Lecture: Zoo Photography; Family workshop: Observing Animals at the Zoo; elephant training demonstrations; Meet the Great Apes; films.

Thursday, June 9

Lecture: Inside Zoo Medicine; Family workshop: Face Painting; elephant training demonstrations; Meet a Small Mammal; films.

Friday, June 10

Lecture: How Animals Talk to Each Other; Family workshop: Careful Pet Care; elephant training demonstrations; Meet a Snake; films.

Saturday, June 11

Giant Panda Day at the Zoo; Family workshop: Radio-Tracking Animals; elephant training demonstrations; Meet a Monkey; films.

Films include: *King Elephant*, *Wild Babies*, *The Peace Game*, *The Predators*, *Zoo Veterinarians* and *Panda*.

ZooNight—an evening of special activities for FONZ members only.

June 3—Members with last names beginning A-M (rain date: June 10).

June 17—Members with last names beginning N-Z (rain date: June 24).

Animal training demonstrations, young people's programs, behind-the-scenes tours and the "closest-up" look at Zoo animals you'll ever enjoy. ZooNight T-shirts will feature a special design saluting the reopening of the renovated Small Mammal House.

Watch the mail for your ZooNight invitation and bring it with you for admittance.

June 25—FONZ Summer Classes begin. See your Wildlife Adventures brochure for details.

Free coloring book—You can pick up a free coloring book from FONZ if you ride Metro's Red Line to the Zoo during the month of June. Just present your Metro ticket at one of the FONZ Information Booths.



Any time is a good time to ride Metro's Red Line to the Zoo—but June (Zoo and Aquarium Month) is especially good because you can get a free gift from FONZ. See page 23 for details.

**Friends of the National Zoo
National Zoological Park
Washington, D.C. 20008**

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